

Smarter Balanced (SBAC) Assessment Resources

Quarterly Bulletin: January – March 2014

This quarterly bulletin compiles Smarter Balanced resources that were shared via the Agency's [Weekly Field Memo](#). The bulletins are stored on the Agency's [Smarter Balanced web page](#).

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NEWS & UPDATES

Smarter Balanced: Teachers Participate in Teacher Ambassadors Training

Audience: All

Teachers from 24 states, including Twinfield Union School's Terri Vest, met last week in Charlotte, North Carolina to participate in the first [NEA/Smarter Balanced Teacher Ambassadors training](#), funded by the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. At the training, Smarter Balanced staff shared resources from the Smarter Balanced website related to summative and interim assessments, and demonstrated the Digital Library and the formative assessment process included in the resources submitted to the Digital Library.

Contacts: Michael Hock, State Assessment Director, 802-479-1288 or michael.hock@state.vt.us or Mary Ann Minardo, SBAC Teacher Involvement Coordinator, 802-479-1309 or maryann.mindardo@state.vt.us.

Smarter Balanced Field Test begins March 25, 2014

Audience: All

Twenty-seven Vermont elementary, middle, and high schools will begin the [Smarter Balanced Field Test](#) on Tuesday, March 25, 2014, joining more than 3 million students in 20,000 schools across the Smarter Balanced member states. [Click here](#) to read the memo and learn more.

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CONFERENCES & WEBINARS

Vermont Curriculum Leaders Association (VTCLA): Supporting New Standards and Assessments

Audience: Curriculum Directors, Principals, & Teacher Leaders

Deadline: January 31, 2014

What are the most current resources available to support the implementation of Common Core, develop an awareness of Next Generation Science Standards, and assist with the transition to the Smarter Balanced Assessment System? Agency of Education Content Coordinators, Tracy Watterson, Lori Dolezal, Kris Breen, Gail Hall, and Kathy Renfrew, as well as the Assessment Director, Michael Hock, will share their thoughts and respond to your questions at the next VTCLA meeting on Friday, February 7 at the Capitol Plaza from 8:30 to 3:30. [Click here](#) to learn more and register.

Statewide Assessment and Students with Disabilities Webinar

Audience: Parents, Case managers, Special Education Directors, Special Educators, Principals, General Education Teachers, Related Service Providers

With the implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in Vermont, many parents of students with disabilities are concerned about the state wide assessment of these standards and how their children will meaningfully participate. Join us for an overview of both the Smarter Balanced and Dynamic Learning Maps Assessments that will be administered in Vermont, next school year, to all children in grades 3-8 and 11. Time will be allowed for questions at the conclusion of the webinar.

Reserve your webinar seat now: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/751325638>.

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Shelbi Cole, SBAC Lead Math Consultant, Presents at Saint Michael's College

Audience: All

The Smarter Balanced Consortium's Lead Math Consultant, Shelbi Cole, recently presented at Saint Michael's College. Her presentation provides an overview of the new testing program's approach to assessing students' math skills. [Click here](#) to watch the presentation, and [click here](#) to see the Power Point presentation. Learn more about the assessments here: <http://education.vermont.gov/sbac>.

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RESOURCES & FAQs

Smarter Balanced Field Test Portal Updated with Training Module Resources

Audience: All

The following training modules have been added to the Portal: Let's Talk Universal Tools, Performance Task Overview, Student Interface for Online Testing, Technology Requirements for Online Testing, What is a CAT (Computer Adaptive Test)?, and What is a Field Test? View these and other resources here: <http://sbac.portal.airast.org/field-test/resources/>.

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Smarter Balanced e-Newsletter

Audience: All

Keep up-to-date with the latest news and information from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium by signing up for [Smarter News](#). Also available in Spanish: <http://bit.ly/1aW4GzA>.

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Smarter Balanced (SBAC) Assessment: FAQs

Audience: All

Want to learn more about the 2014 Field Test? [Click here](#) for more information about Vermont's Field Test (March 25 – June 6, 2014). [Click here](#) to read past FAQs.

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